

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE  
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	14-205
Possible Funding Partners:	

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Title:** USFS Leonard Points 4, AZGFD #1102

**Region and Game Management Unit:** Region 2, GMU 5A

**Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):**

- Forage Resource Study Group

**Was the project presented to the LHPC?**

YES[X] NO[]

**Has this project been submitted in previous years?** YES[] NO[X]

**If Yes, was it funded?** YES[] NO[] → **HCP Project #:**

**Project Type:** Water Development

**Brief Project Summary:** This project looks to increase water availability for a US Forest Service wildlife/ fire catchment in central GMU 5A. The catchment is failing with the 1970's steel storage tank rusted through and leaking. The old drinker has also failed at times with outdated plumbing and a non-working float. With funding from the HPC process, AZGFD will replace the inadequate FS drinker with a maintenance free catchment system capable of supporting the year round demands of big game such as elk and deer.

**Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:** Elk, Mule Deer, Whitetail Deer, Turkey, Black Bear, small game, and various non-game including bats and reptiles.

**Implementation Schedule** (Month/Day/Year):

Project Start Date: 7/1/2015

Project End Date: 6/30/2017

**Environmental Compliance:**

NEPA Completed: YES[X] No[] N/A[]

Projected Completion Date: 2010

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

YES[X] No[] N/A[]

Projected Completion Date: 2010

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[]

To be Completed by: J. CURRIE

Projected Completion Date: 7/1/2016

**PROJECT FUNDING**

**Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:**

\$ 42,908.00

**Cost Share or Matching Funds:**

\$ 26,288.00

**Total Project Costs:**

\$ 69,196.00

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

**Applicant** (please print):

Garrett Fabian

**Address:**

3500 S. Lake Mary Rd, Flagstaff, AZ

**E-mail:**

gfabian@azgfd.gov

**Telephone:** (928) 606-3557

**Date:** 8/27/14

**AGFD Contact and Phone No.** (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):

**Project has been coordinated with:**

USFS (Mogollon Ranger District), FRSG HPC, AZ Elk Society, and AZGFD Engineer

### **NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

Water availability on the northern portion of the Mogollon Ranger District within the central portions of Game Management Unit (GMU) 5A, 5BS, and 5BN are fairly limited. Most water availability comes from dirt tanks, which have become so degraded that water availability is severely limited. There are six USFS water catchments in the area, which were constructed in the 1970's. All six are failing in some fashion and in need of redevelopment. The six catchments (USFS labeled - Trick Tanks) consist of:

- Trick Tank #1- livestock/wildlife apron catchment feeding into a railroad car storage vault with a ring drinker located at (N 34° 45.070 / W 111° 03. 353) near the rock climb recreation area.
- Trick Tank #2 - wildlife drinker with an apron catchment and small metal storage vault located on Jacks Canyon at (N 34 41.710, W 111 07.003).
- Trick Tank #3 - wildlife drinker with an apron catchment and small metal storage vault located at (approx. N 34° 37.984 / W 111° 02.989) on a non-numbered two-tracker off FS 319 behind Mogollon Ranch.
- Trick Tank #4 is a 10,000 gallon wildlife/fire “saucer” type trick tank with a wildlife drinker located downstream located at (N° 34 34.245 / W 111° 05.210) on FS 137B,
- Trick Tank #5 is a 10,000 gallon wildlife/fire “saucer” type trick tank with a wildlife drinker located downstream located at Trick Tank #5 (N 34° 32.577 / W 111° 07.122) on FS 137
- Trick Tank FS145 is not listed on the USFS list of catchments, but it is a wildlife/fire system consisting of a 10,000 gallon “saucer” type trick tank with a wildlife drinker located downstream located at (N 34° 24.898 / W 111° 11.609) on FS 145.

See attached Map for Trick Tank #4 site also known as AZGFD #1102.

The Leonard Points 4 catchment is a joint fire/ wildlife water that has been unreliable due to apron degradation, plumbing failures and leaks from rust through of the storage tank. AZGFD and USFS has made plumbing repairs to the drinker, however the drinker is small in size and plumbing fails regularly. AZGFD Habitat Planning Program Manager Joe Currie conducted a site visit in 2006 estimating the storage tank had a life expectancy of 5 years, and concluded it was best to construct a whole new wildlife only catchment. This catchment is the fifth in a group of five that the AZGFD has cleared through the USFS for redevelopment. While Leonard Points 4 (AZGFD 1102) is low on the Regional priority list, it is one of only a few with all the necessary federal documentation completed and is actually higher on the list considering two higher projects in GMU 5A (AZGFD 1115 & 1015) are already funded just awaiting implementation.

### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

This project looks to rebuild a US Forest Service wildlife catchment in central GMU 5A. The current catchment is inadequate in the amount of water available (storage capacity), reliability, and apron size. In addition, the current catchment is over 30 years old and has failed. With funding from the HPC process, AZGFD will replace the inadequate FS drinker with a maintenance free catchment system capable of supporting the year round demands of big game such as elk and deer.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

The proposed plan would consist of AZGFD Development Branch building a gravity fed water catchment (20,000 to 30,000 gallon) in the identified areas (see attached schematic). These large gravity fed catchments are buried underground, require virtually no maintenance, and due to their size require little effort in maintaining water availability. Catchments would be constructed within the existing water development's footprint to minimize disturbance and administrative paperwork. Only medium sized dump trucks with flatbed trailers carrying backhoe and bobcat are the needed heavy equipment necessary to construct the new catchments.

This catchment currently resides on an existing road. No new roads or trails will be necessary for the work. If an existing road does need to be improved for the machinery to head into the area, the road will be left as it was found prior to the work (i.e. boulders, trees, etc will be placed on road) to prohibit use other than what it was getting prior to the work. Finally, all work within Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Areas will be done outside of the breeding season (allowable work timeframe is Sept.1-March1 yearly). This site is **not** within a PAC location so there are **no** seasonal restrictions. Up to a half dozen Ponderosa Pine trees less than 24" dbh may be removed if needed.

It is estimated that it will take about a month to complete each catchment. USFS Coconino Mogollon Rim District agrees to pre-work identification of weeds, treatment and post work monitoring and weed treatment of the footprint area should the need arise for three years following completion. Overall, these water development reconstructions would help reduce the limiting factor of water availability on the northern half of the Mogollon Ranger District and increase the carrying capacity of this area for wildlife.

### **PROJECT LOCATION:**

Leonard Points Trick Tank #4, also known as AZGFD 1102, is located at N° 34 34.245 / W 111° 05.210 in T14N, R12E, Sec. 28. It is located on Coconino National Forest maintained road 137B a few miles north of the 137/137B junction.

**LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name):** US Forest Service, Mogollon Ranger District

*IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP or LANDOWNER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?*  
YES[] NO[]

### **HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

This project is located in Ponderosa Pine/Juniper transition habitat. Elevation is approximately 7100 feet, receiving moderate winter moisture.

### **ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Cost estimate was derived in coordination with AZGFD Engineer Joe Currie. He provided the following cost estimate:

- 3' X 18'dia. Fiberglass Ring Tank – \$ 10,010.00 (per tank, need two tanks)
- 3' X 5' Fiberglass Walk-in "Elk" Trough - \$ 3,934.00
- 24' X 96' Metal frame and R-panel Apron - \$ 6,153.00
- 200' X 200' Heavy duty Pipe rail fence - \$ 3,400.00
- Elk enclosure fencing for apron - \$3,500.00
- 3" Sch 80 Plumbing and brass ball valves - \$ 1000.00
- Misc. Materials - \$ 1000.00

Total: \$39,007.00

Cost increase of 10% = \$3,901.00

Grant Request of \$42,908.00

AZGFD Development crew will complete the installation of the project. J. Currie estimated that to be \$20,000 in kind labor cost match. In addition, Wildlife Manager G. Fabian has dedicated 10 days to project development, field trips, coordination, and finalization, which is matching in kind labor of \$1820.00. The USFS has spent 14 days completing administrative paperwork for project analysis, NEPA, ARCHY, fieldtrips, and weed monitoring, which is a matching in kind labor of approximately \$4468.00.

<b>Project material cost:</b>	<b>\$42,908.00</b>
<b>Matching in kind labor value:</b>	<b>\$26,288.00</b>
<b>Total project cost:</b>	<b>\$69196.00</b>

### Special Big Game License Tag Funds

#### Cost Share or Matching Funds

AZGFD Development crew will complete the installation of the project. J. Currie estimated that to be \$20,000 in kind labor cost match. In addition, Wildlife Manager G. Fabian has dedicated 10 days to project development, field trips, coordination, and finalization, which is matching in kind labor of \$1820.00. The USFS has spent 14 days completing administrative paperwork for project analysis, NEPA, ARCHY, fieldtrips, and weed monitoring, which is a matching in kind labor of approximately \$4468.00.

### **LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

The USFS Mogollon Rim RD is cooperating in this effort with AZGFD to replace these catchments. AZGFD would seek funding through the AZGFD HPC process and other grant funding opportunities. The Mogollon Rim RD would cost share these projects through NEPA and ARCH completion and weed requirements. There will be no partial direct funding on the USFS part as the catchments that were previously used for fire are no longer necessary. These catchments will be re-built without the fire hook-up capability. Ownership of these new catchments along with maintenance responsibilities will transfer to AZGFD upon completion of the rebuild per the USFS special use permit SUP RED0415.

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

These drinkers will be monitored for water availability and maintenance issues several times each year.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

Little to none.

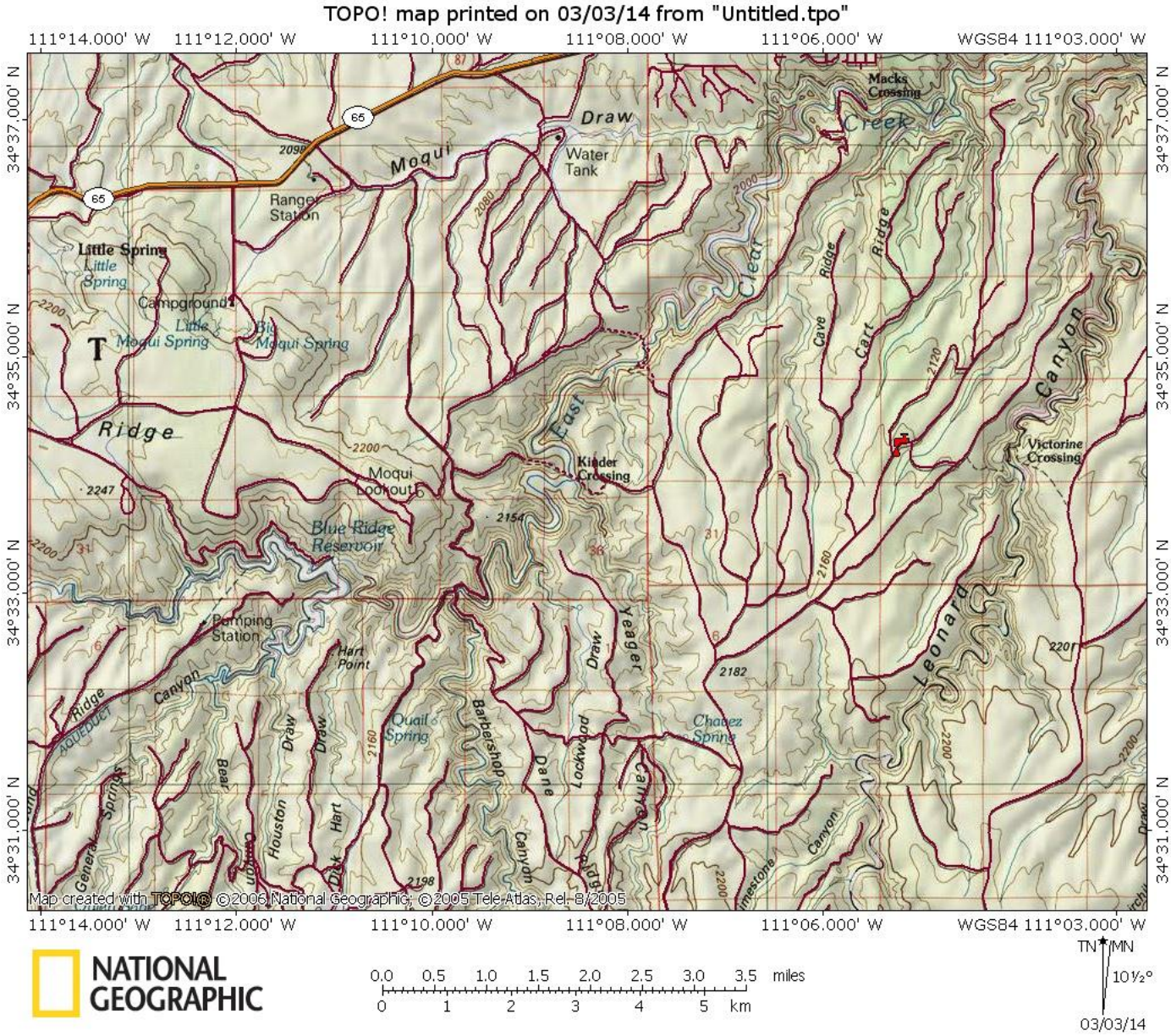
**PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:**

Wildlife Manager Garrett Fabian

**WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS** (*see attached worksheet*):

**TREE SHEARING (AGRA-AXE, PUSH) PROJECTS** (*see attached worksheet*):





## **AZGFD WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET**

**PROJECT NAME:** Leonard Points 4, AZGFD catchment #1102

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”** Yes. It is the Region II, sector 8 #13 priority.
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**  
Joe Currie, 2006.
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**  
☐2-4 ☐4-6 ☐6-8 ☐8-10 ☐10-12 ☒12-14 ☐14-16 ☐ >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**  
  
YES☒ (please complete #5 below) NO☐ (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**  
Name of water source: There are numerous dirt tanks on Leonard Points however, they have been so unreliable, the permittee does not even run livestock out there. Other permanent water sources include AZGFD catchment 1015, which should be completed in 2014, is 2.7 miles away.
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES☐ NO☒
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument). If private land, list landowner.**  
N/A.
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**  
Type of access (mark one): ☒2x4 vehicles ☐4x4 only ☐foot only\*\*  
\*\*If foot access only: Distance in miles: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate hiking time: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES☐ NO☒  
  
-- Please describe any restrictions to public access:
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**  
See attached schematic of catchment #1102.
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** Yes☒ No☐  
See answer #2.



LP 4, AZGFD #1102 Engineering plans similar to this schematic of LP5, AZGFD 1015

Coconino National Forest Report #2009-49-A

Figure 14

